

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Mayfair community is one of the San Jose neighborhoods selected to be part of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative process. This document, the *Mayfair Neighborhood Improvement Plan*, is the result of a year-long effort on the part of Mayfair residents, the Mayfair Improvement Initiative community leaders and other stakeholders to develop a "blueprint" for the improvement of their neighborhood. This document builds upon the Mayfair Neighborhood Improvement Initiative Strategic Plan for Neighborhood Transformation, prepared in 1997, which provides a vision to address the neighborhood's high-priority issues.

### A. "Top Ten" Priority Actions

Chapter 5 of this document outlines 33 specific actions that the community, the City and other agencies will implement to achieve the Mayfair Community's vision for its future. At a community workshop in August of 2002, community members voted for their highest priority actions. Two votes were taken, one to determine residents' deepest community desires, and one to prioritize them based on relative costs. The two votes resulted in a list of fourteen priorities. In September 2002, the NAC narrowed the fourteen to ten. These "Top Ten" actions



*Some of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee Members (NAC) of Mayfair*

were identified as those actions that would most contribute to improving the livability of the Mayfair SNI neighborhood and achieving the community's vision for its future. The NAC was explicit in its direction that the underlying focus of all of the ten priority actions should be towards benefiting current Mayfair residents. The "Top Ten" actions are listed below and discussed in greater detail in Chapter 5.

1. Establish an Adult Learning Center
2. Construct a new library in Mayfair
3. Build more affordable housing, to help accommodate existing Mayfair residents that presently live in overcrowded conditions
4. Upgrade street lighting throughout the neighborhood to meet current standards
5. Enhance collaboration and communication between the Police and the Mayfair community

6. Increase gang prevention and intervention programs and activities in Mayfair
7. Investigate identified neighborhood traffic issues; develop, review and implement a neighborhood traffic calming plan
8. Implement a neighborhood cleanliness and open space and environmental education campaign
9. Improve employment assistance and employment programs for all Mayfair workers
10. Support the proportionate increase of homeowners to renters in Mayfair

All 33 of the actions are presented in summary format in the Action Matrix at the end of Chapter 5.



*Prioritizing recommendations at an August 2002 community-wide workshop*

### *B. Plan Vision and Goals*

The shared vision, which lays the foundation of this *Plan*, is to create a future where:

- ◆ People work together, to support one another to improve the neighborhood;
- ◆ There are good schools and community facilities providing quality educational experiences for adults and children;
- ◆ Decent, safe, sanitary and high quality affordable housing is available to all residents;
- ◆ It is safe and easy to walk on neighborhood streets;
- ◆ People are given the opportunities and resources to find and maintain well-paying jobs;
- ◆ There are adequate open space, park and recreational opportunities for the community;
- ◆ There is an environment in which all residents can live, work and prosper without fear in a safe and healthy surroundings;
- ◆ The Mayfair neighborhood provides a clean, inviting and well-maintained environment in which businesses can prosper and families can thrive;
- ◆ There are adequate transit options for residents to travel to work, school or leisure activity destinations.

To help achieve this vision, Mayfair residents developed a series of Goals for their community. The overall goals, developed through a combination of this planning process and previous planning efforts by the Mayfair neighborhood, are listed below.

1. Create and strengthen community pride.
2. Ensure that all Mayfair parents have the opportunity and the needed support services to plan for, start and raise healthy, well-adjusted families; all Mayfair children shall be raised in safe, nurturing and educational environments.
3. Ensure that all Mayfair children and youth (grade K-12) have available educational programs, facilities and opportunities needed to a) succeed in the marketplace; b) pursue their individual interests; c) graduate from high school; and d) undertake and advanced degree if desired.
4. Ensure that all Mayfair youth are well-prepared for adulthood and involvement in family, the workplace and the community.
5. Ensure that all Mayfair adults have ready access to educational opportunities and programs, provided in a culturally-sensitive manner, to gain successful employment and pursue their personal interests.

6. Improve management of the Alum Rock School District.
7. Ensure that there are safe, attractive places for children to learn and play, and the community to interact.
8. Improve availability of and access to high quality and adequate social services for residents, regardless of ability to pay or citizenship status.
9. Increase the understanding of all residents as to how to make the most effective use of the health and social services available.
10. Reduce crime, especially violent crime, to establish a civic environment in which all residents can live and work without fear.
11. Reduce substance abuse and domestic violence.
12. Reduce the neighborhood drug trade.
13. Reduce juvenile crime and involvement of Mayfair residents in gang activity.
14. Increase the stock of high quality housing that is affordable to low- and very low-income Mayfair resident households, especially for families and seniors, and market this housing to existing Mayfair residents.
15. Improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood so that it is a physically clean and safe place to live and work.
16. Enhance the condition and appearance of housing and businesses in the Mayfair area.
17. Promote local businesses that serve the community and that are committed to actively supporting the on-going development of the Mayfair community.
18. Celebrate the Mayfair neighborhood and build civic pride and community spirit through ongoing cultural, artistic and community events.
19. Ensure that all Mayfair residents are employed and have the skills to succeed in well-paying jobs.
20. Improve pedestrian and bicycle safety throughout the area.
21. Improve existing service and explore new transit options to meet transportation needs of the community.

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